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CANADA

HOW TO MAKE OUTPOST HOMES IN CANADA

THE LITTLE BLUE BOOKS
HOME SERIES

ISSUED BY
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH, CANADA
OTTAWA

"I feel sure you will prove as good citizens as those thousands of girls who, during the last twenty-five years, have gone to Canada. It will be a fine, healthy outdoor life, and though perhaps somewhat strange at first you must not be disheartened. You will soon get accustomed to your new homes, and I hope you will be very happy.

In wishing you good-bye and good luck, I should like to say to you: Always be cheerful and make the best of things, do what is right, and whatever may be your task do your best in it. Remember that life is made up of loyalty—loyalty to your friends, loyalty to things beautiful and good, loyalty to the country in which you live, loyalty to your King and, above all, for that holds all other loyalties together, loyalty to God. I shall always think of you. God bless and keep you."

—Queen Mary's Farewell Words to fifty Barnardo Girls on March 31, 1923.

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Children of Sheridan Lawrence in their Garden at Fort Vermilion

Natural Resources Intelligence Branch,
Department of the Interior.

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DOMINION OF CANADA

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

HOW TO MAKE OUTPOST HOMES IN CANADA

BY

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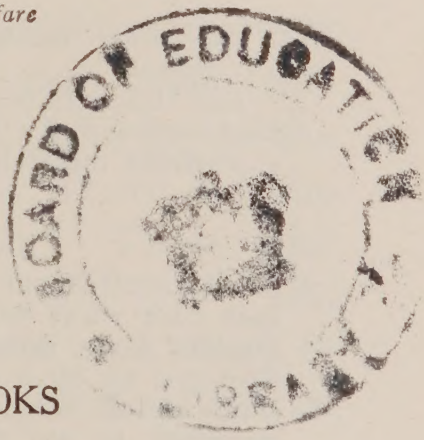


THE LITTLE BLUE BOOKS

HOME SERIES

OTTAWA

F. A. ACLAND

PRINTER TO THE KING'S MOST EXCELLENT MAJESTY

1923

(52,813)

"Home, in one form or another, is the great object of life."
—*J. G. Holland*

"Outpost Homes are God's Outposts."
—*A Home Missionary*

"Once in your wide arms you held me
Till the man-child was a man
Canada, great nurse and mother
Of the young sea-roving clan."
—*Bliss Carman*

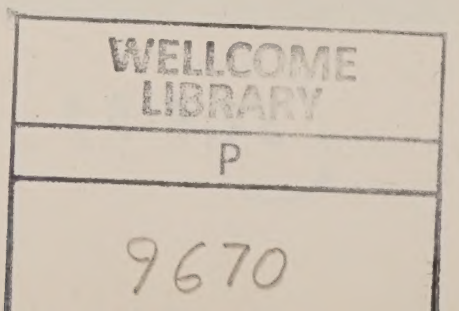
The mighty voice of Canada will ever call to me.

But the last and best and sweetest is the ride by hill and dale
With the packer and the packhorse on the Athabasca Trail."
—*Arthur Conan Doyle*

"There's no sense in going further—it's the edge of cultivation
So they said and I believed it—broke my land and sowed my crop,
Built my barns and strung my fences in the little border station
Tucked away below the foothills where the trails run out and stop."

"Yes, your 'Never-never country'—yes, your 'edge of cultivation'
And 'no sense in going further'—till I crossed the range to see.
God forgive me! No, *I* didn't. It's God's present to our nation.
Anybody might have found it but—His Whisper came to me."
—*Rudyard Kipling*

"Real settlement is only possible when conditions can be made such that white women will make their homes and rear their families in the isolated settlements of the north. At present the fight put up by women in particular is a very hard and sometimes almost a heartbreaking trial. It becomes more and more necessary to see that school facilities be provided wherever possible and just as important that medical assistance be rendered available to the mothers and families throughout the north and that it may be possible for them to call on medical assistance without undue loss of time. That in turn, apart altogether from its necessity for trade purposes, demands better communication by telegraph or telephone. Only thus will our northern territory be truly settled and truly developed."—*From the Annual Report of the Commissioner of Northern Manitoba, 1920.*



OUTPOST HOMES

A HUNDRED years ago, every home in Canada was an Outpost Home of the British Empire.

The whole world has changed in that hundred years. Canada is a Nation—a Country of Homes—with Farms almost touching each other from Ocean to Ocean, with great cities, industries, commerce, and something of a history and a literature. All this has grown from these Old Outpost Homes. The Pioneers who made Canada builded well. Honour to their name.

Outpost Homes have been established every year since, and for many years to come Outpost Homes will be established, chiefly on the Northern fringe of settlement. There is "The Growing Point of Civilization." Those who go this year to the Outposts will be "Old Timers" in ten or twenty years and many of them will be well-off, if they have settled on good land, and worked hard.

R. C. M. P.

The Government Services and especially the Royal North-West Mounted Police—now the

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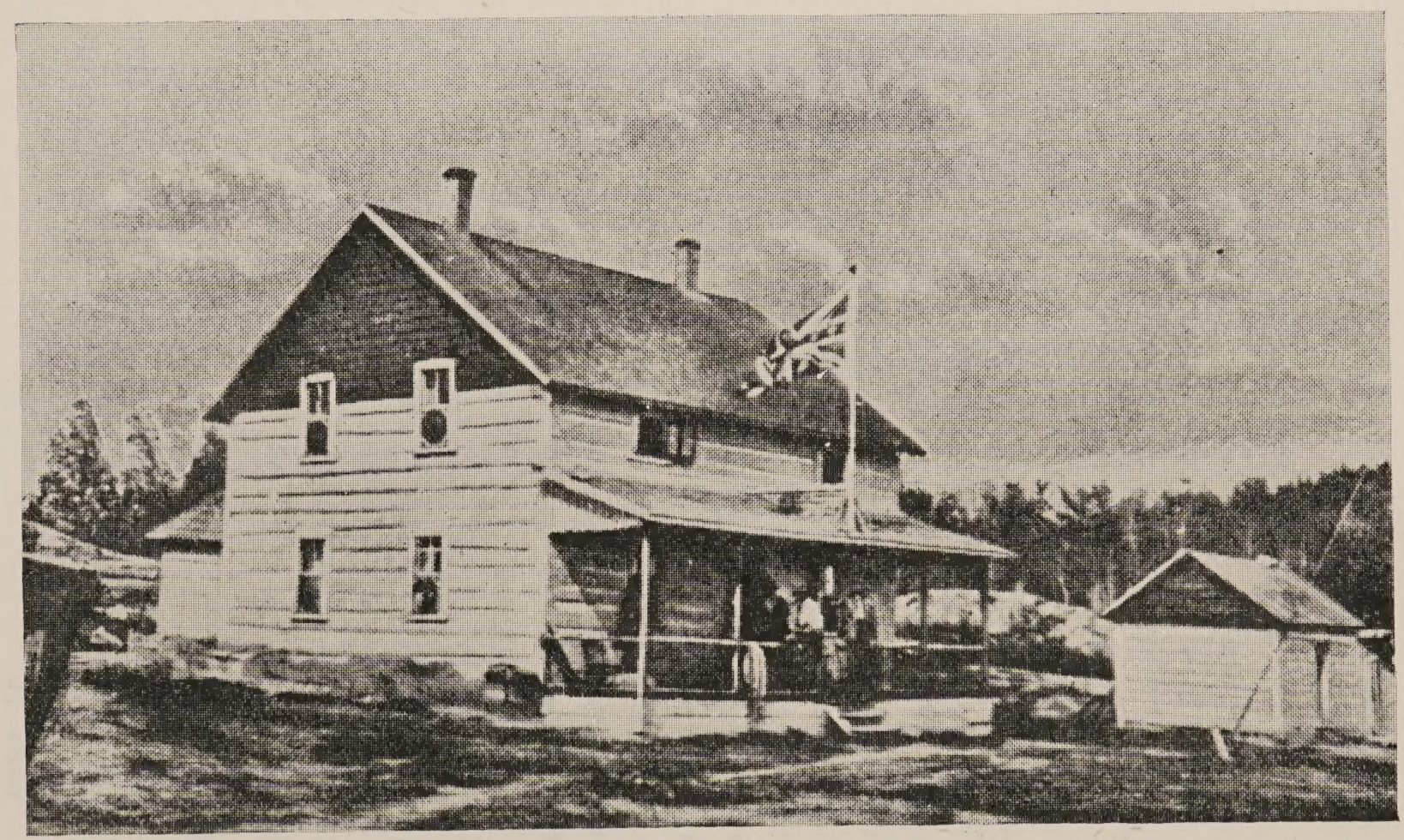

R.N.W.M.P. Barracks at Smith Landing

Natural Resources Intelligence Branch,
Department of the Interior.

Royal Canadian Mounted Police—have made themselves a name in Canada, and in the world, by the way they have done their duty in the Outpost Country, bringing not only respect for law and order, but succour and help. As they have done in the past so they do to-day. Sometimes they use air craft now in their work.

Home Life

Home life in such regions is doubly precious. It is not everybody who can make a good happy hospitable home in the outposts. It is not easy to realize and anticipate all the requirements of daily life and work about a year ahead, making provision for maintaining health and comfort, preventing sickness, caring for those who are sick—when the nearest place to purchase supplies of any kind may be 20 to 100 miles or more away. Yet it can be done, and usually the task of the Outpost Homemaker grows easier every year.

Mails

There were 12,290 Post Offices in Canada in 1923, and as soon as you and your neighbours need another, there will be 12,291. Our Northernmost Post Office is Aklavik, which is 100 miles from the Arctic Ocean. Mails go from here to Herschel by R.C.M.P. patrols.

When necessary dog-teams are used in winter, and some day you will watch the sky for your Air Mail.

By Wireless

"Radio was recently responsible for medical aid reaching a little log cabin near the Rice lake gold fields.

The only communication with the outside world—a wireless set, was used by the husband to send out an "S. O. S." call, which was picked up and relayed to Winnipeg. A doctor on the opposite side of Rice lake was notified. Mother and Baby are doing nicely."*

There are now thirty-seven Air harbours in Canada; from Vancouver to Halifax. Every Province except Prince Edward Island has one or more Air harbours. One hundred and fifty-eight places in Canada were visited by air craft or flown over in 1922. If you want to know how near they come to your Outpost Home, write to the Secretary of the Air Board at Ottawa and ask him.

The Canadian Air Force has a large number of experienced flying officers who served with distinction during the war.

*Winnipeg, Nov. 7, 1923.

The Old and the New.
York Boats and a Flying Boat at Norway House, Manitoba.

Official Photograph, R.C.A.F.

" Aviation can play an important part in development of the vast territories lying to the north of our present railroads, by providing a method of transportation and observation, fast, reliable and easy, as an alternative to the canoe, dog and pack train by which these immense distances must be covered under present conditions. The protection of our forest resources from fire; their survey by aerial photography and sketching; the transportation and maintenance of survey parties in the field; mapping from aerial photographs; and other similar work is the most practical line of development for civil aviation in Canada and the one on which the energies of the Air Service are, and have been, directed from the beginning. Thanks to the ready and generous co-operation received from all branches of the Government engaged in work of this nature, much progress has already been made in opening up these new fields for aviation."

" Sixty-one hours flying was carried out for the Department of Agriculture, in connection with their investigation of the white pine blister rust outbreak in British Columbia. The officer in charge of the field parties on this work writes as follows: ' Our staff is so small, and the disease has been found to be so much more prevalent than we had expected, that we were very doubt-

The Machine That Flew To Buttles Lake, V.I.

Official Photograph, R.C.A.F.

ful of our ability, with the ordinary methods of transportation available, to cover all the infected territory. However, with your help in reaching more or less inaccessible places, in a minimum of time, we have been able to do much more effective work.' "

" Possibly the most outstanding feat of the season was the transporting of fire-fighters to Buttles lake fire in the centre of Vancouver Island. This fire was reported on the 28th of July. To get into this lake with a crew of men would have required a two-day trip and construction of about fourteen miles of trail over difficult country. By the time the crew arrived in all probability the fire would have been of such a size that it would have been impossible to have taken in sufficient additional men to have fought it. The big machine and emergency fire-fighting equipment were wired for. The equipment consisted of a portable pump and set of tools. These were loaded together with twelve hundred feet of hose, a sixteen man tent, six shovels, six mattocks, six axes, camp outfit and provisions for six men for two weeks. Four fire-fighters were carried also, in addition to the crew of the machine. The total load on this trip was four thousand eight hundred and ninety-five pounds. Visibility was very poor but the

machine rose to the height of one thousand feet and hit across Vancouver island in the direction of Buttles lake. The route following the Campbell river to Campbell lake was taken, crossing the Campbell river fire, then following the Elk river and landing in Buttles lake about fifty-four minutes from Campbell river. Equipment and personnel were put ashore at the fire in collapsible boats. The machine then returned to Campbell river and picked up three more fire-fighters and took them into the fire. The fire-fighters were landed at four in the afternoon, fought the fire all night, surrounded the fire with a fire trench and got the pump into action. The fire was practically under control in the morning. The crew were left on the fire for two more days and on the fourth day the machine went in and took the crew and the equipment out. The gasoline taken in for the portable pump was used as extra fuel and one man was left to patrol the fire.

The total flying time for this job was about ten hours. The total passengers transported on the three trips was forty, including the crew. The total miles covered was eight hundred and thirty-six. On the trip out from the fire twelve passengers were taken in addition to the crew at one time,—"*Annual Report of the Air Board, 1922.*"

Making a Home

This is encouraging, and the intelligence, industry, initiative and energy of the young man who goes to the Outposts to make a home must keep him thinking in the future, as he has in the past, of all these things. As a rule, where we cannot make a home people should not try to live. It is a terrible thing for any settlement when the wives and families cannot live where the husband and father lives. It is hard to keep things right in a place like that. Men of experience have said that it cannot be done. We must get the conditions for happy home life as soon as possible, but women and children should not go to Outposts until it is possible for the husband and father to get the home started under safe and somewhat comfortable conditions. Usually he has to go first and spy out the land. Sometimes the wife and family can live temporarily about a day's journey away. Then he can come to see them pretty often.

Some Conditions for Right Home Life

1. House, equipment, simple furniture.
2. Supplies—Food, Water, Fuel, Clothing.
3. Farm Requirements—Stock, Buildings, Machinery, Seed.
4. Lines of Communication.
5. Help for Emergencies.
6. Neighbours.

Neighbours

Without neighbours, that is, without human society, people get "queer" and things go wrong. Women need neighbours. So do men. When you go to an Outpost Home, two or three neighbours who get on well should go together. Could you not build houses at the "Corners" of the farms so that the houses would be near enough to each other but not too near? You should be near enough to see the smoke of your neighbour's hearth-fire. It is not a very hard job to build a private telephone to your next neighbour. Telephone equipment is fairly simple now. There are other ways of signalling, with lights, or a sheet hung out of the window, or something else.

The House

The house must give shelter, keep out the rain, and keep people warm in winter. This means that your husband and your neighbour should know how to build your house. The first house is usually a log cabin, with the logs skilfully joined at the corners, and the spaces between the logs built in with cement or mortar. Sometimes sod, moss and mud are used. The roof is made with poles, moss and sod, covered with shingles or corrugated iron. But a man needs to learn how to do a job like that before

Rancher's Log Cabin

Natural Resources Intelligence Branch,
Department of the Interior.

he goes to an Outpost Home. Sod does not stand well for more than a year or so. You have to do it over.

Furniture

Stoves, beds, a table, chairs and other equipment are often hauled to the Outpost Home; but simple furniture, such as tables, cup-boards, chests, seats, benches and book shelves are often made on the spot, especially in winter-time. Farm requirements must be secured. Tools are sometimes worth their weight in gold.

Food

Food and supplies for a year should be "in sight"—What will happen to you if you forget the matches? Did you remember the lamps and the oil? Don't forget your map, your writing materials and your Bible, prayer-book and hymn-book and some other books. Good water supply must be assured, and while you are about it get the water into your house.

Fuel for the year must also be "in sight."

Doctor—Nurse—Hospital

In case of sickness you should have some simple remedies. See your doctor before you leave home and ask him what you need to take

Christmas at Carcross, Yukon

G. B. Lancaster

with you. Remember that you must know where the nearest doctor and nurse live and how they can be reached in case of need. Some day you may need them for your wife in a great hurry. Or it may be better for her to go to the nearest Hospital. Plan it well. Have a book on First Aid and Emergencies. Think twice before you go to live and make your home more than fifteen miles away from any Doctor.

Lines of Communication

Think out what your means of communication and transportation will be. Where is the nearest Post Office? And the nearest Telegraph Office? How are you to haul your grain to market? How will you get your next year's supplies, especially food and clothing? This is the time to study it all out and get advice about it from people who know and who have "no axe to grind."

Canadian Experience

Remember that no New Canadian should try to make an Outpost Home. Live from two to five years in the older-settled parts of Canada before you go to the Outposts. You will need some years of Canadian country life to prepare you to make an Outpost Home.

If you are going to a Province, then you should live for sometime in the older settled

parts of that Province before you go to the Outposts. Each province is different from the others.

Do Not Be Deceived

Do not let anyone deceive you, and do not deceive yourself or your wife, about the conditions you are going to. And do not be too much of an optimist. Things are not always what people say they are nor what we wish them to be nor what we think they are going to be. Take off about 25 per cent discount of your hopes in making calculations about your Outpost Home.

Time of Arrival

Do not emigrate to Canada in the winter, or in the Autumn. Come in Spring. March is a good time to come.

Church and School

Where is the nearest Church? And the nearest School?

Remember that in a few years you and your neighbours will have some good Canadian boys and girls to send to school. How are you going to manage that? This is the time to think all these things out, before you "Take the Trail" for the Outpost Home.

"Goodbye and Good Luck."

"Courage, from whatever angle we approach it, whatever origin or purpose we assign to it, no matter what form it assumes, nor even what motives underlie it, will always be a quality beloved of man. The courage of attack, the courage of defence, the courage of art, the courage of debate, the courage of motherhood, the courage of grief, the courage of adventure, the courage of ill-health, the courage of the martyr, the gambler, and the spy, each for itself we respect and admire. And after all, 'it is not life that matters, but the courage that we bring to it.'"

—Dr. J. L. Birley.

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